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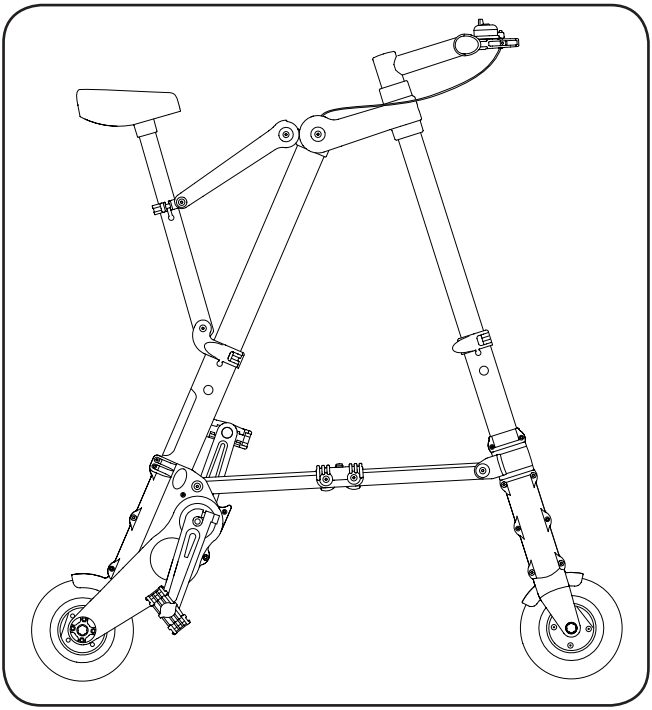
A-bike™



USER MANUAL

PLEASE READ BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO OPEN THE BIKE

Design registered and patented

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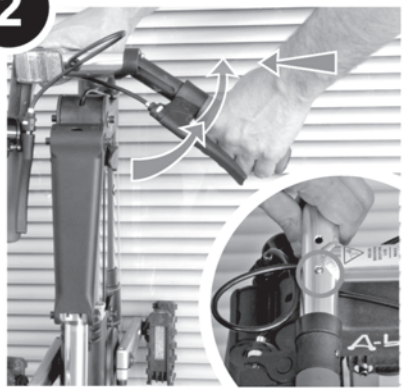

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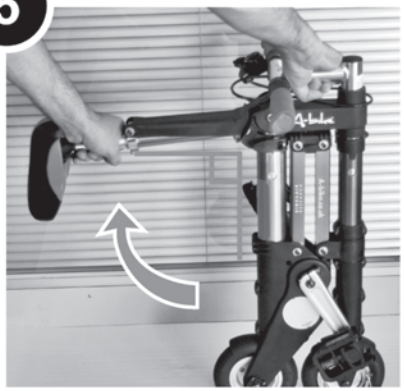

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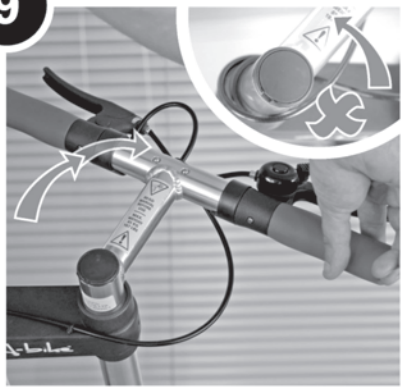

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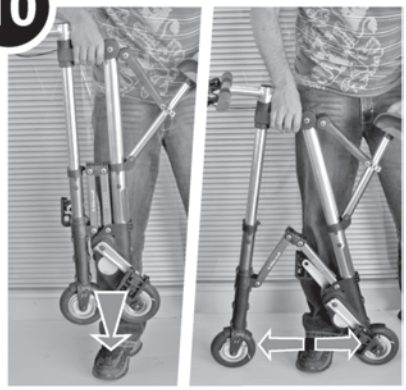

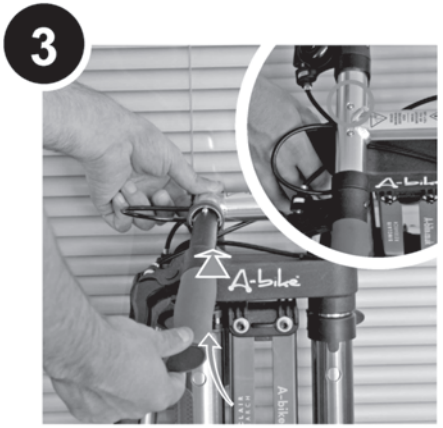
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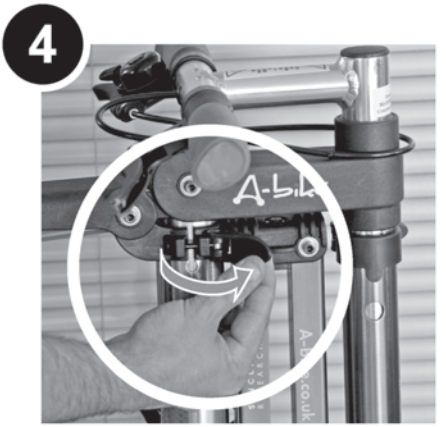
A-bike
A-bike.co.uk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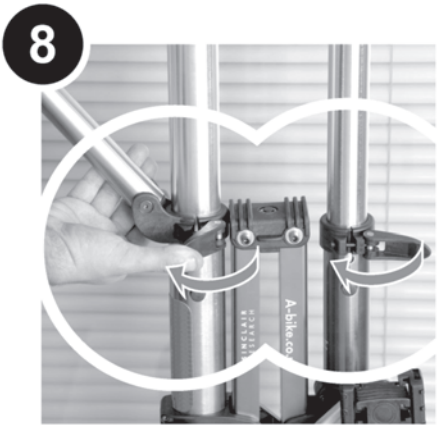
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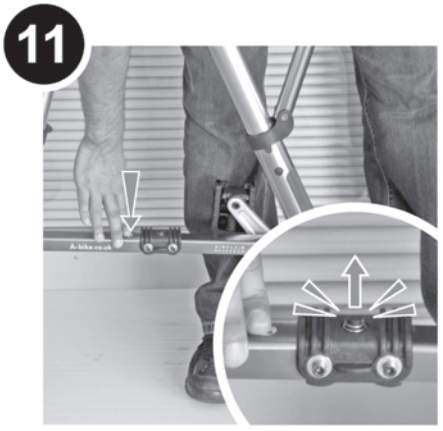
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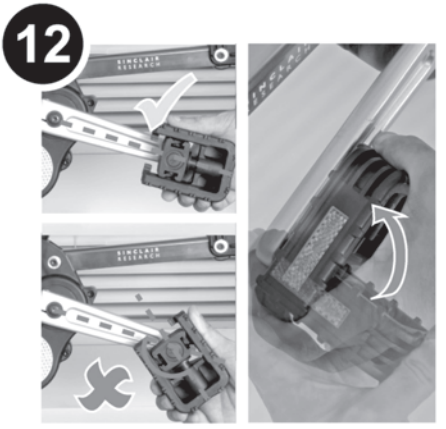
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SINCLAIR RESEARCH
SINCLAIR RESEARCH

Introduction

Congratulations and welcome to the A-bike, the world's lightest and smallest folding bicycle. Before using the bike you must read these instructions.

Designed for short trips and mixed mode transport the A-bike is unique in concept and design. This booklet will introduce you to, show you how to use, take care of and to make repairs to your A-bike. It is vital that you use and maintain the bike correctly to avoid damaging the product and harming yourself.

Please pay particular attention to notes highlighted in a box as these are especially important and must be remembered at all times.

The geometry of the A-bike is quite different from any other bike and hence may feel a little strange at first. After a bit of practice we are sure you will find the bike easy and comfortable to ride. Getting to know your A-bike will enable you to get the most out of it and know the limits, enabling you to use it safely.

Box contents

- A-bike folding bicycle
- A-bike toolkit
- A-bike user manual

Warnings

Rider weight limit
The bike has a maximum weight limit of 95 kg (210 lbs), this includes the rider and anything the rider is carrying, for example a back pack.

Not a mountain bike
The A-bike is designed for smooth roads and it's lightweight construction means it's not suitable for rough surfaces or off-road riding. Do not attempt stunts on the bike and avoid sudden drops or rises such as curbs.

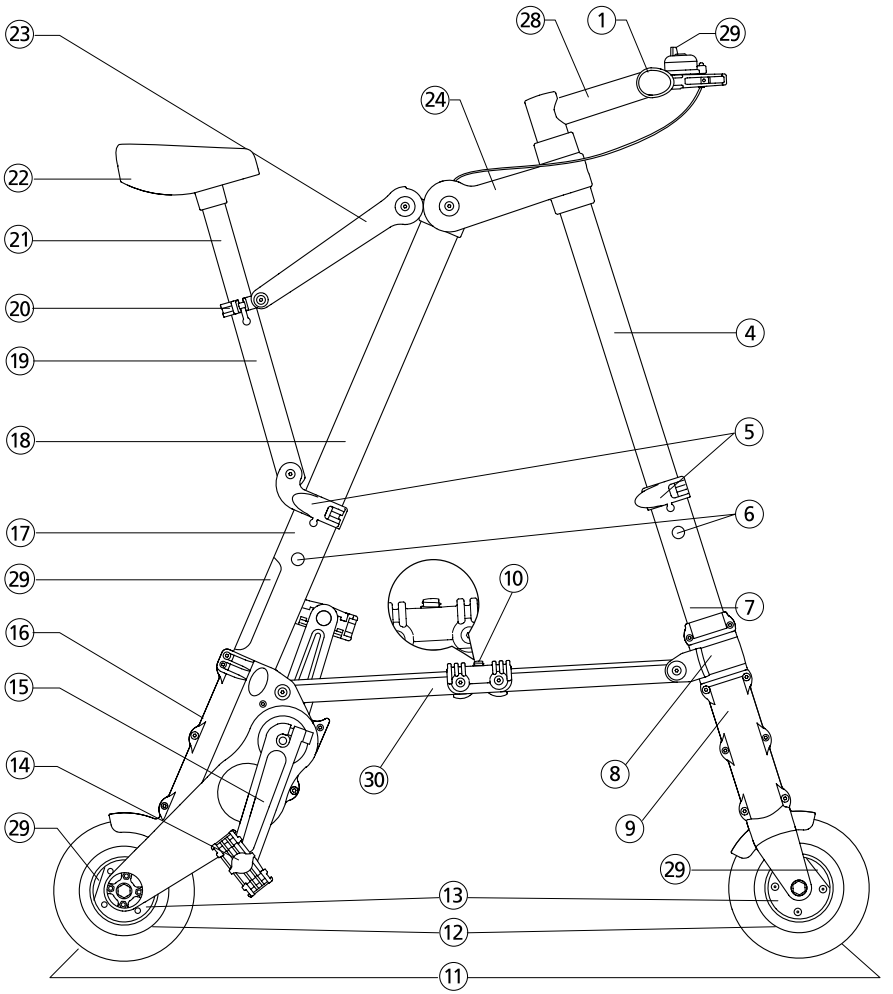
No maintenance tires
The A-bike uses tubeless tires with a sealed, internal air chamber for shock absorption. Air pressure cannot be adjusted.

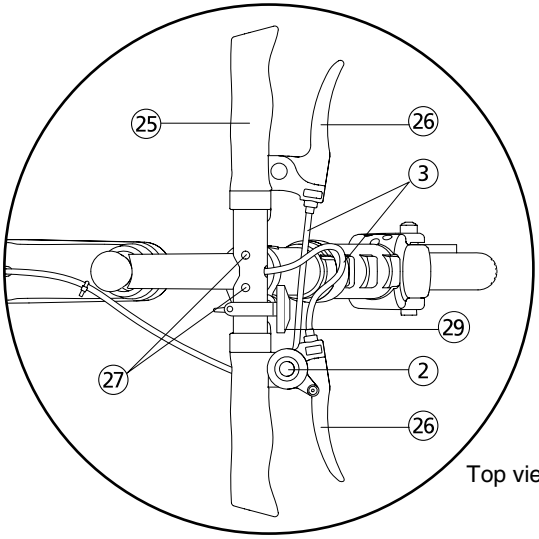
Quick release levers and locking buttons
When opening the bike ensure that all the locking buttons pop out. The two quick release levers should be hand tight and firmly secured.

Don't step on the crosspiece
The crosspiece is not designed to bear any load. Do not stand on or attach anything to this beam.

Important
Ages 5+. Choking hazard: contains small parts. Keep away from small children. Assembly and use should always be under adult supervision. Please retain retail receipt for date and purchase location verification. See page 31 for warranty information.

Diagram





Top view

1. Handle Bar
2. Bell
3. Brake Cable
4. Front Upper Tube
5. Quick Release Clamp
6. Main Locking Buttons (on both sides)
7. Front Lower Tube
8. Lower Steering Joint
9. Front Fork
10. Crosspiece Button
11. Tire
12. Brake Band
13. Wheel Hub
14. Pedal (on both sides)
15. Crank (on both sides)
16. Crank Case
17. Rear Lower Tube
18. Rear Upper Tube
19. Outer Seat Tube
20. Seat Clamp
21. Seat Post
22. Saddle
23. Seat Stay
24. Upper Steering Joint
25. Handlebar Grip
26. Brake Lever
27. Handlebar Locking Buttons
28. Handlebar stem
29. Reflectors
30. Crosspiece

Riding Safely

When riding the A-bike it is important to remember to abide by local bicycle riding laws.

Ride defensively and be vigilant of other road users. Always leave a large enough gap between you and obstacles, slow down and stop if necessary.

Watch out for uneven surfaces and pot holes.

When riding in the dark you should wear high visibility clothing and use lights when appropriate.

Wet weather will reduce grip and increase stopping distances; ride slower if necessary. Icy conditions should be avoided entirely. Windy conditions can severely effect riding stability.

Always wear a helmet when riding.

Always wear suitable shoes. Sandals are not appropriate.

Avoid loose clothing and anything that may get caught in the mechanisms of the bike.

Become familiar with riding your bike slowly and in a safe environment before heading into areas with other traffic.

Store your bike securely and safely in a clean and dry area to avoid damaging the bike.

If there are any broken parts, they must be replaced before riding.

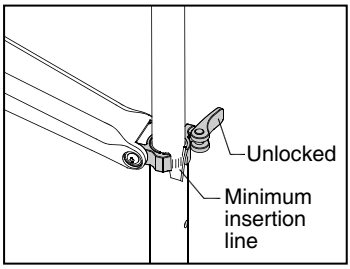
Adjusting saddle height

Before riding the bike, check that the seat height is adjusted and that the brakes work.

Choosing the Correct Saddle Height
With both feet flat on the ground adjust the saddle height so that you can comfortably sit on the saddle.

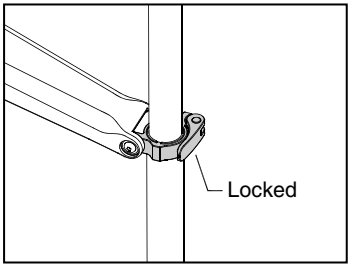
1. Unlock the Seat Post quick release clamp.

2. Slide the Seat Post vertically to adjust the Saddle position as required.



The minimum insertion line should NOT be visible, it should be inside the outer tube.

3. Once the desired Saddle position has been selected, make sure the saddle is positioned forward and then lock the Seat Post quick release clamp so that you cannot twist the saddle out of alignment.



If the saddle can twist then unlock the quick release lever and tighten with an allen key before locking the quick release again and re-testing.

Adjusting the brakes

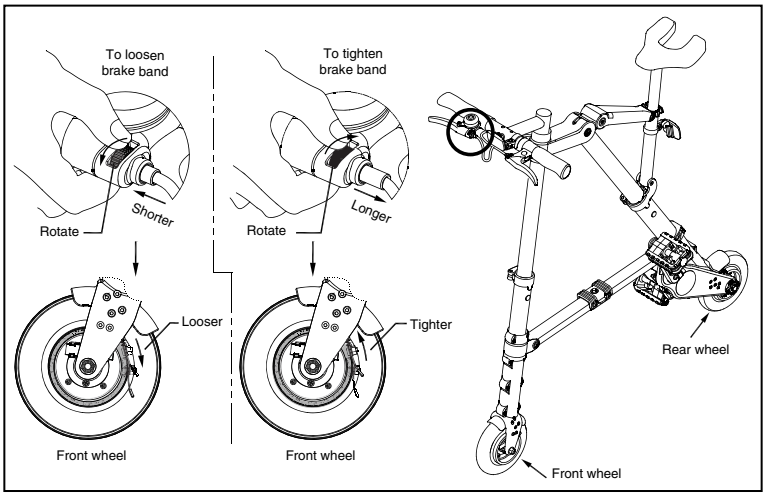
If the brake band is knocked it is possible for it to become misaligned with the braking hub and wheel. If this happens it may be necessary to gently bend the band back into shape. Care must be taken not to cause strain around the brake band mounts. If the brake band rubs against the wheel it can be gently bent away.

Hot brake bands and brake fade
The band brakes will become hot when used, be aware of this when storing and handling the bike, allow the brakes to cool.
Brake fade may occur when used for long periods of time.

Adjust the brakes ONLY when the bike is fully unfolded and extended as this can effect the brake cables.

Fine brake cable adjustment

To adjust the Right Hand brake (Front wheel):



The fine adjustment wheel can be found on the brake handles.

Turn it to change the length of the cable as shown in the diagrams.

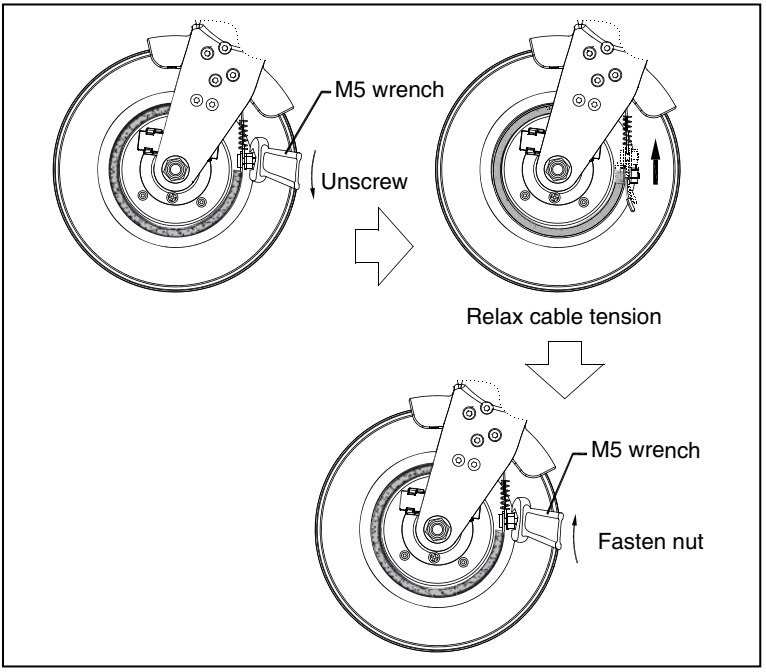
You may need to hold the cable still to prevent it from rotating.

To adjust the rear wheel, do the same as above but on the left hand brake lever.

Major brake cable adjustment

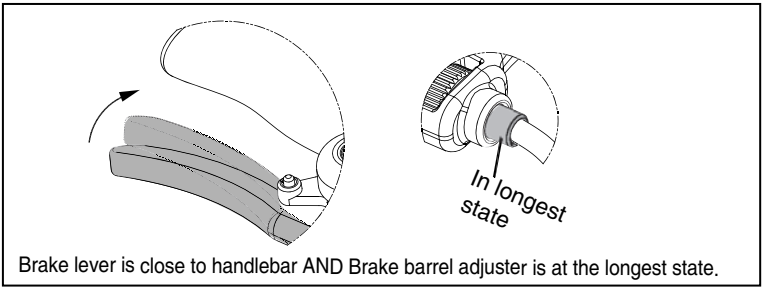
To loosen a tight brake

Relax brake band to reduce braking force.



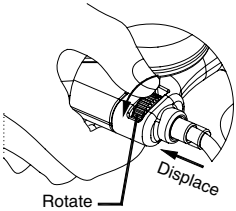
To tighten loose brake

When the brake is too loose.

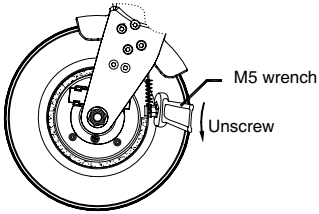


Brake lever is close to handlebar AND Brake barrel adjuster is at the longest state.

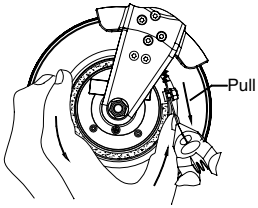
Rotate brake barrel adjuster to move the brake barrel fully in.



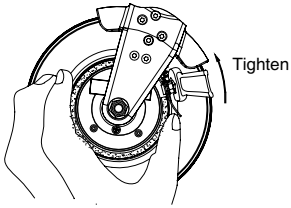
Unscrew M5 nut by wrench.



Wrap the brake band closely around the brake barrel, using pliers to pull the cable end out.



Tighten the nut



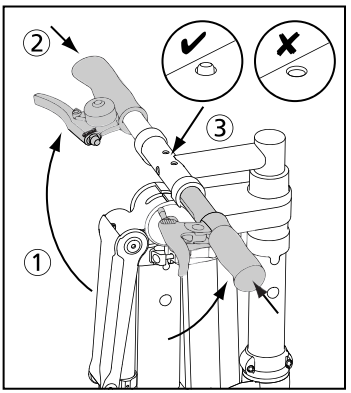
Unfolding the bike

Please also refer to the illustrated photo guide which can be found at the beginning of this user manual.

Trapped fingers
Fold and unfold the bike slowly and take care to avoid trapping fingers, especially when dealing with the pedals.

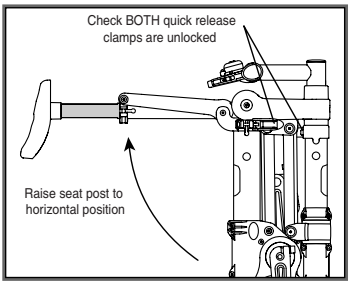
It is important to follow each step in the correct order, the bike does not need a lot of force to be unfolded and can be done in as little as 10 seconds.

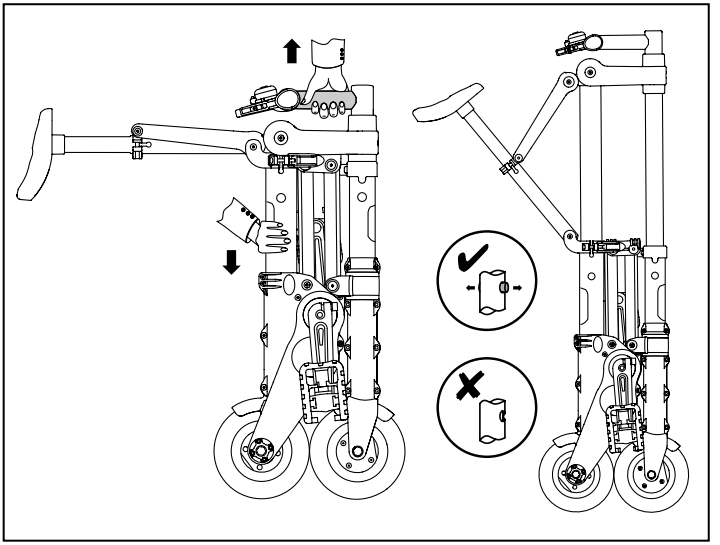
1. Lift the Left and Right Handle Bar ends up to the horizontal position and slide them into the centre portion. Check that both locking buttons are fully engaged.



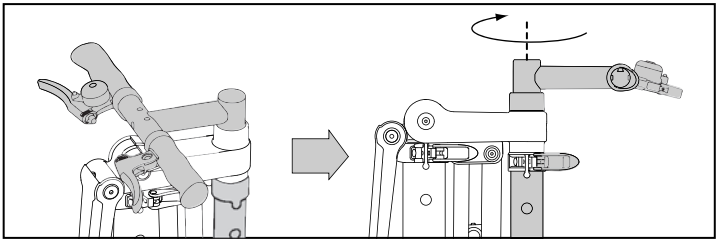
2a. Check BOTH quick release clamps are unlocked.

2b. Raise seat post to horizontal position.

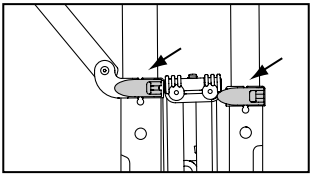




3. Grasp handlebar stem and rear leg as shown and extend legs until all FOUR quick release buttons are locked.

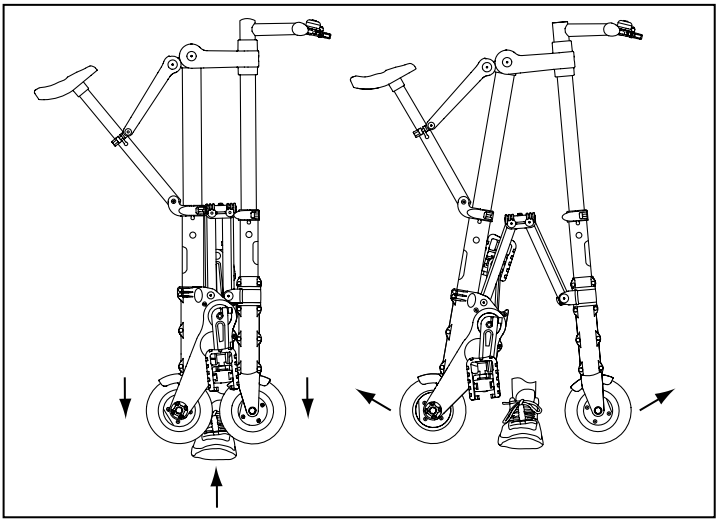


4. Rotate the Handle Bars 180° clockwise (looking from the top). DO not force it in the wrong direction as this will wrap the brake cable around the stem of the handlebars and damage the bike.

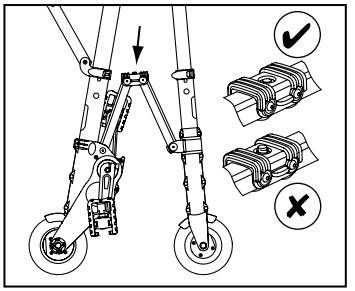


5. Lock both quick release clamps.

Quick release levers and locking buttons
When opening the bike ensure that the locking buttons pop out. The two quick release levers here should be hand tight and firm.

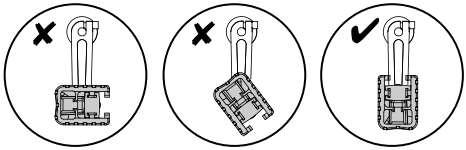


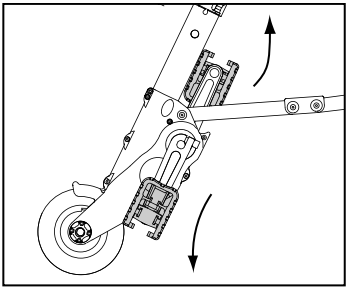
6. To open out the legs, lower the bicycle down gently onto the top of your foot with a tire either side of the foot. As the legs part, simply push down to fully open out.



7. Press the crosspiece centre down until the quick release button pops up and locks.

Crosspiece locking button
The locking button the crosspiece must pop out when the bar is fully unfolded.



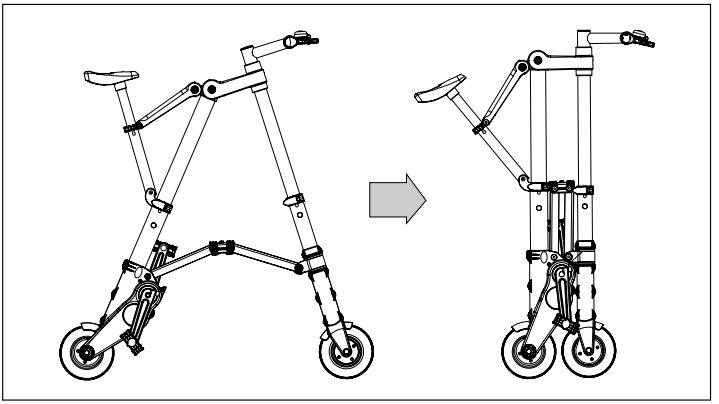


8. Align the Pedal parallel to the Crank, and fold it outward. Be careful not to pinch your fingers (on some models of A-bike this may not be necessary).

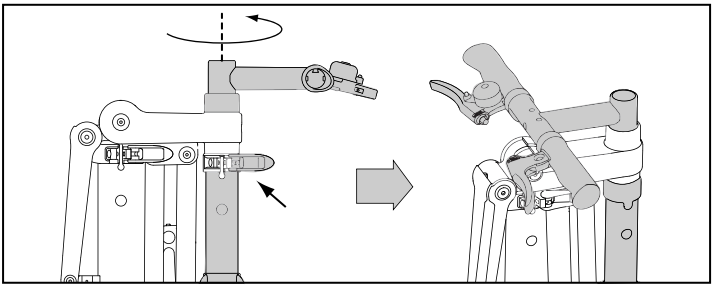
9. Now that the A-bike is fully unfolded, check to make sure that both Handle Locking Buttons, four Main Locking Buttons and the Crosspiece Button are fully engaged, the Front and Rear Clamps are locked and the Crosspiece is straight and locked before riding.

Folding the bike

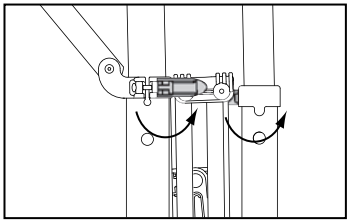
To fold the bike



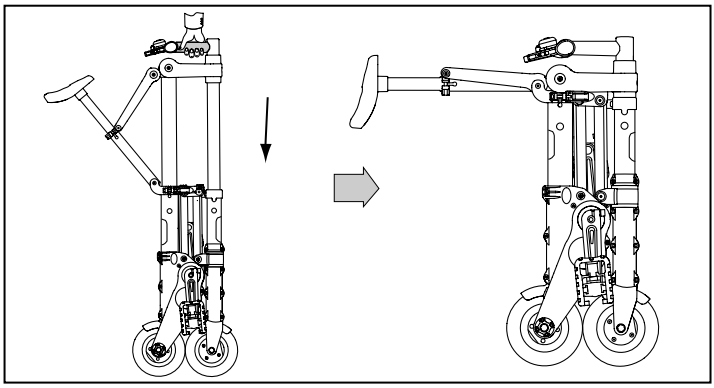
1. Press down the locking button on the Crosspiece and lift it up into the folding position. Push both sides of the bike firmly together, you should hear a click as the two sides clip together, this is important for the next step to work.



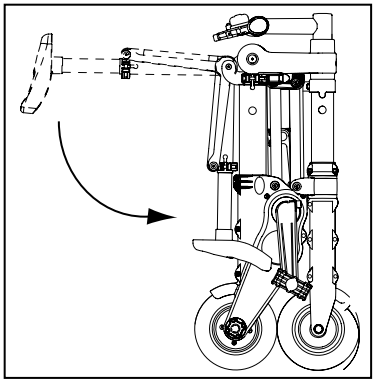
2. Rotate the handlebars 180 degrees counter clockwise viewed from above.



3. Ensure both clamp levers are unlocked.

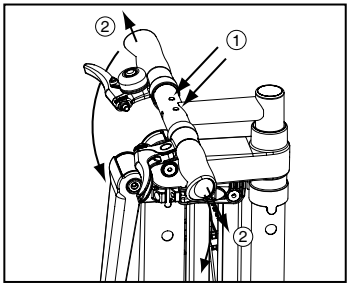


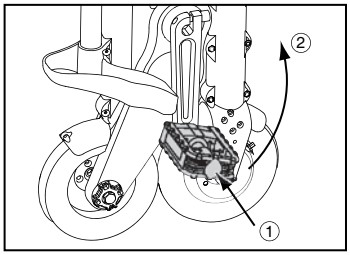
4. Press and hold all FOUR buttons and simultaneously push down on top of the bike.



5. Saddle will drop under its own weight when legs are fully telescoped down.

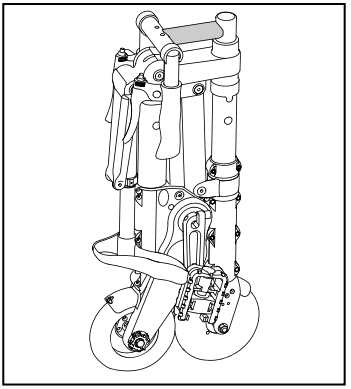
6. Press and hold the two Locking Buttons on the handle, pull the Left and Right Handle Bars out and flip them down until both are in vertical position.





7. Press inwards to flip both Pedals up into vertical position. Be careful not to pinch your fingers.
Please ensure the pedals are aligned perpendicular to the crank as per unfolding instructions.

8. Now that the A-bike is successfully folded, you are now ready to carry your portable A-bike to your next destination.



Maintaining your bike

Like all bikes, the A-bike requires some simple maintenance to run at it's optimum and prevent parts from becoming damaged.

It is vital that you maintain your A-bike!

If you notice in a small change in performance of the bike we recommend you check the bike as this is often a sign of the beginning of a potentially serious problem.

Weekly checks

• Check your A-bike before every ride. Special attention should be given to brakes, wheels, tires and all quick release clamps and locking buttons.
• Check wheels are securely attached to the frame and forks.
• Check that tire treads are in good condition. Wheels with worn tires should be replaced.
• Check brakes work effectively and the bands are aligned with the rim.
• Check pedal cranks and pedals are securely attached.
• Check all four main lock buttons are fully locked.
• Check the Crosspiece button is locked.
• Check both quick release clamps are locked.
• Check both handle bars locking buttons are fully engaged and locked.
• Check Pedals are unfolded and locked.
• Check Saddle and seat post are secure and adjusted to the correct height.
• "Listening-check". Spin both wheels and listen for any rubbing sounds. Investigate and adjust if brakes are rubbing.
• "Snag-check". Check for frayed cables that may snag clothes when riding. Replace worn or damaged cables where necessary.
• Check for any deformed or cracked components which must be changed before use.

Maintenance

Clean the bike - dirt is the enemy of a smooth running bike and can eventually cause parts to seize in addition to causing corrosion. Carry out regular cleaning and corrosion protection of all parts of your A-bike.

We recommend washing the A-bike with a gentle flow of water, or from a bucket, using a damp cloth. This is also a great opportunity to visually inspect your bike.

Inspect the bike for damage
Damage to parts can result in sudden failure of that part. The bike should be regularly inspected, looking for cracks, discolouration of material, scratches and loose fastenings. If damage is found you should contact the vendor and seek advice before attempting to ride the bike.

Check your brakes - you should be able to stop the wheel from turning without the brake lever touching the handle grip. Test this when stood by the bike, NOT while riding it! If you need to adjust it look at the Repairs section of this user guide.

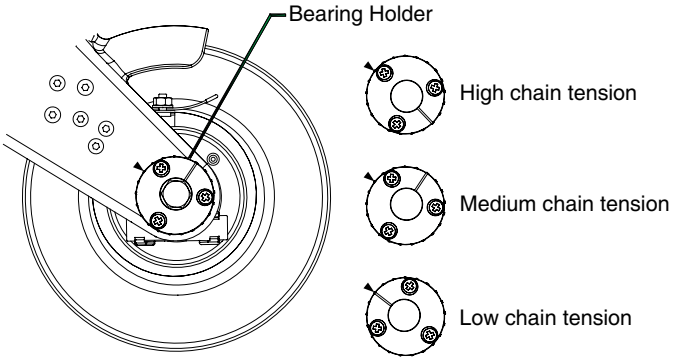
Clean the chain and lubricate regularly, this is vital to reducing wear to the bike and efficiency.

Adjusting chain tension

The A-bike chain tension is preset in the manufacturing process. If the chain needs to be replaced it should be referred to a bicycle mechanic or an A-bike dealer.

If the chain is too slack it may be noisy and if too tight it may make it difficult to turn the wheel. When viewed the chain should have some slack.

To adjust chain tension, unscrew and then rotate the Bearing Holder and the opposite one at the same time.



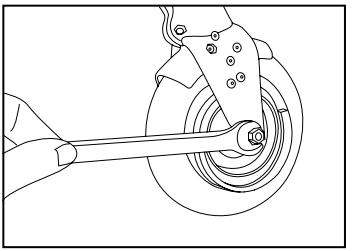
The A-bike has a two-chain drive system. Put the unfolded bike upside down on a clean surface. One chain can be obviously viewed, cleaned and lubricated through the gap in the crank casing where the wheel is. The other chain can be lubricated through a small inspection hole in the centre of the crank casing.

Wheel removal

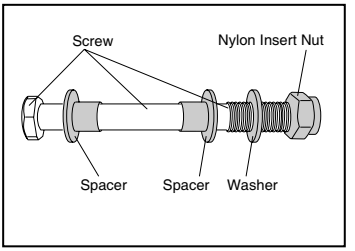
Wheels with worn tires should be replaced.

Removing the front wheel from your A-bike.

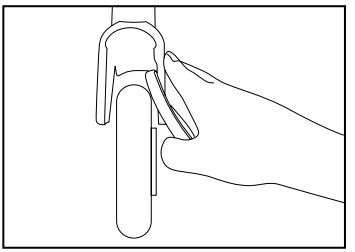
1. Remove the nut on the front wheel.



2. Pull the bolt out remembering the order of the spaces and washers for re assembly.



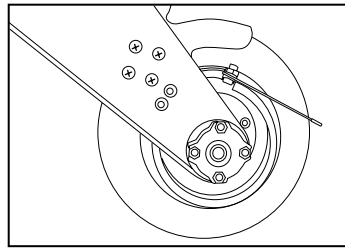
3. Hold the brake band out of the way to drop the wheel out. Take care not to stress the brake band mounting bolts.



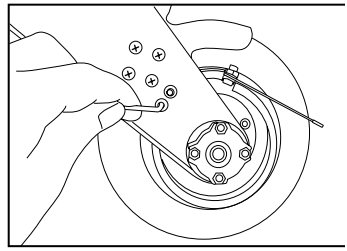
4. Refitting is the reverse of removal.
Check that the brake band is correctly aligned on the wheel and that the fasteners are tightened.

Removing the rear wheel from your A-bike.
This is a two stage operation. First the brake band is moved out of the way. Then the wheel is removed.

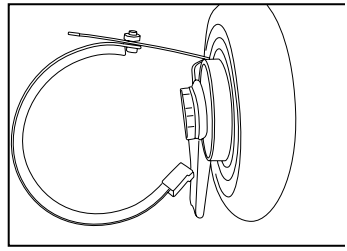
1. Place bike in folded position. (this slackens the brake cable)



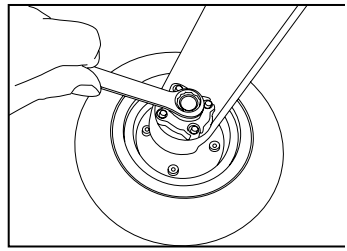
2. Remove two Brake Assembly bolts.



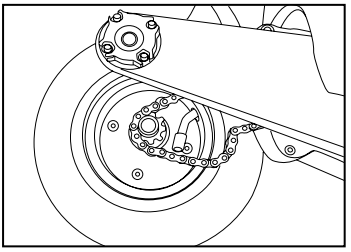
3. With the bike folded, use the slack in the brake cable and withdraw the Brake Assembly out of the crank casing. Do not remove cable from Brake band.



4. Remove rear axle bolts. Please note that the bolt on the left hand side of the bike is Left-hand threaded and therefore can be undone by turning clockwise, standard bolts are undone by turning them counter-clockwise.
To undo both bolts you must firmly hold the wheel still while turning each bolt.



5. Slightly spread open crank casing to allow the Drive Axle to drop out, take the chain off the sprocket and drop the wheel out.

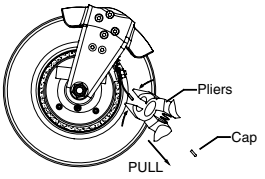


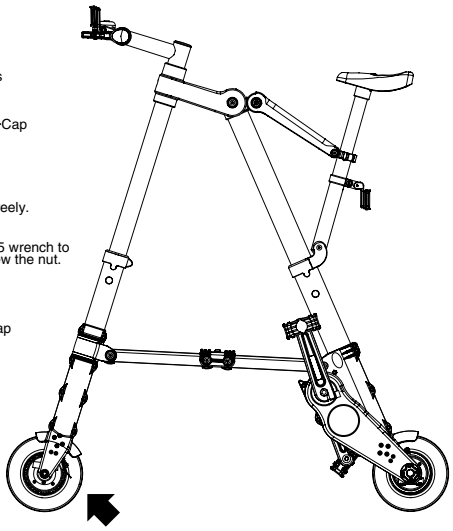
6. Refitting is the reverse of removal. Check that the brake band is correctly aligned on the wheel and that the fasteners are securely tightened. When refitting Brake Assembly fasteners make sure that the anti-vibration washers are refitted too.

Replacing the brake band

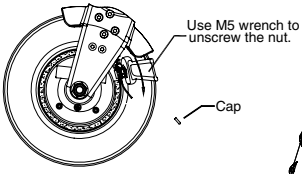
As the brake bands are used they slowly wear, it is important that they are replaced to maintain brake performance and safety.

1. Detach the cap from the cable end by using pliers. (Note: The cap can be reused)

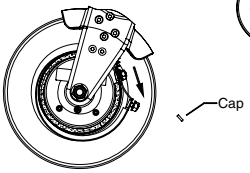




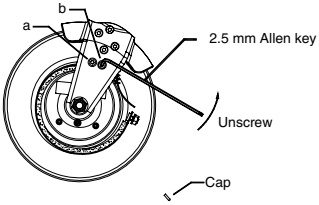
2. Unscrew the nut until the cable can slide freely.

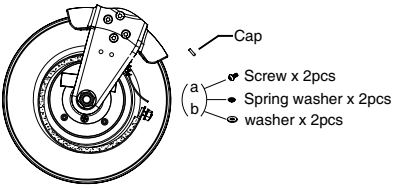


3. Slide the brake band out until the brake cable is completely withdrawn.

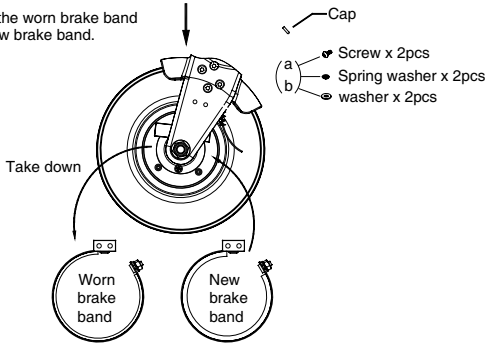


4. Unscrew fasteners 'a' and 'b' by using 2.5 mm Allen key.

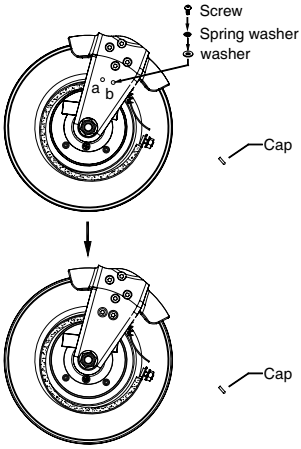


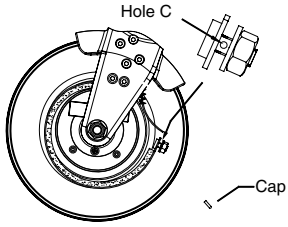


5. Replace the worn brake band with a new brake band.

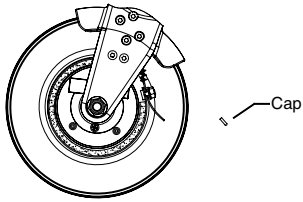


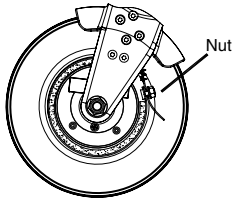
6. Assemble back fasteners 'a' and 'b'. Make sure the screw is passing thought a spring washer followed by the plain washer.





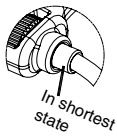
7. Lead brake cable end passing through hole 'C'.



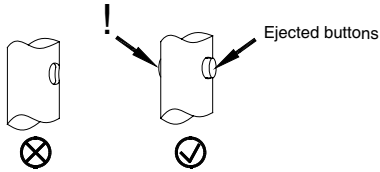


8. Check below 'd' and 'e' before tightening the nut.

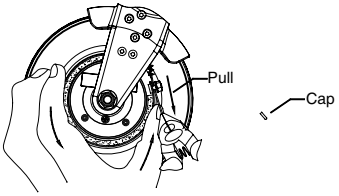
d: brake barrel is always in shortest state.



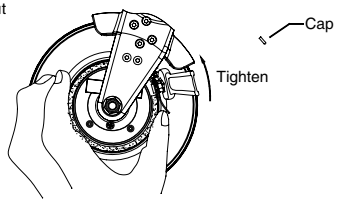
e: BOTH quick release buttons are ejected.



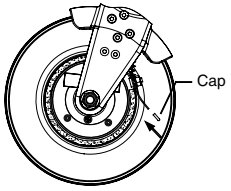
9. Wrap the brake band closely around the brake barrel, using pliers to pull the cable end out.



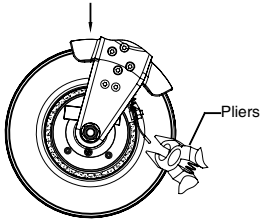
10. Tighten the nut



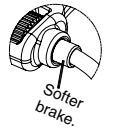
11. Plug in cable cap to protect the cable end.

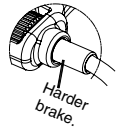


12. Use pliers to clamp the cable cap tight.



13. Adjust brake barrel to adjust braking force.





REMARK: To replace rear brake band, same as step 1 to 12.

Warranty

Frame and components are warranted against defects in manufacturing for 6 months from the date of purchase.

This warranty applies only to the original owner and is not transferable.

This warranty is expressly limited to the repair or replacement of a defective frame or defective components. The manufacturer, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to replace the entire unit or defective parts only within the warranty period.

For service during the warranty period, contact Sportcraft® Customer Service at 1-800-668-5480. Outside the warranty period, take your bike to a local bicycle repair shop where you will be responsible for all costs involved. Sportcraft® is not responsible for incidental or consequential damages or labour charges associated with replacing or repairing parts not covered by the warranty.

This warranty does not cover normal wear and tear, follow-up maintenance by non-certified persons, or installation of parts or accessories not originally intended for the A-bike as sold.

The warranty does not apply to damage or failure due to accident, misuse, abuse, neglect, incorrect assembly or normal wear. Modification of the frame or components voids this warranty.

This warranty gives the consumer specific legal rights which may vary from locale to locale. This warranty does not affect the statutory rights of the consumer.

IMPORTANT: Ages 5+. Assembly and use should always be under adult supervision. Please retain retail receipt for date and purchase location verification.

Please record your serial number and date of purchase here:

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